

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1717

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 9244

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, EAIR, WB, TU, GW

SUBJ: WEST BERLIN TURKISH WORKER FLIGHTS

REF A) ANKARA 8980, B) BONN 20256, C) USBERLIN 2560

1. WE AGREE THAT EMBASSY BONN'S SUGGESTION (REFTEL B) FOR RESTRUCTURING OF TURKISH WORKER FLIGHT ARRANGMENTS OFFERED BY ALLIED CARRIERS OFFERS MORE PRODUCTIVE POSSIBILITY FOR COMPETING WITH THY'S SCHOENFELD SERVICES AND SHOULD BE EXPLORED WITH CARRIERS AND ALLIED CARRIERS. WE APPRECIATE ALSO RECOGNITION GIVEN TO NEED TO AVOID ACTIVE US PARTICIPATION IN PUNITIVE MEASURES AGAINST THY.
 2. WE DO NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE GOT AND THY SHOULD HAVE OBJECTION TO STEPS TAKEN BY ALLIED CARRIERS TO RATIONALIZE ROLE OF THEIR AGENTS AND FARE STRUCTURE THAT WOULD REDUCE ALLIED CARRIER FARES NEAR LEVEL OF THY FARES (SCHOENFELD TO ISTANBUL). WE ASSUME THAT REFERENCE TO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THY AND ALLIED CARRIERS IN PARAGRAPH 4 OF REFTEL B RELATED ONLY TO THE AMOUNT OF THE ROYALTY TO THY WHICH IN TURN CONTRIBUTED TO THE LEVEL OF FARES SET BY THE ALLIED CARRIERS, BUT THAT THE AGREEMENT WITH THY DID NOT OTHERWISE
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TOUCH ON THE LEVEL OF FARES SET BY THE ALLIED CARRIERS.

3. WE AGREE WITH US BERLIN (REFTEL C) THAT QUESTION OF ROYALTY PAYMENTS BY ALLIED CARRIERS AS PRICE FOR CONTINUATION OF THEIR LANDING RIGHTS AT ISTANBUL COULD BE RAISED AGAIN BY THY (OR GOT) AT ANY TIME AND WOULD MOST LIKELY BE RAISED AGAIN IF THY FEELS UNDULY THREATENED. IT SHOULD ALSO BE RECOGNIZED THAT DEMARCHES TO GOT THAT LATTER MIGHT INTERPRET AS SEEKING CURTAILMENT OF THY'S ACTIVITIES COULD CAUSE THE ROYALTY ISSUE TO BE RAISED AGAIN.

8. WE DO NOT RPT NOT HAVE INFORMATION TO CONFIRM ALLEGATION THAT THY MAY BE OFFERING SPECIAL FARE (EQUIVALENT TO 20 DM) FOR ROUND TRIP ANKARA-ISTANBUL IN CONNECTION WITH TURKISH WORKER FLIGHTS. AMCONGEN ISTANBUL IS MAKING DISCREET INQUIRIES AMONG CIVIL AVIATION CONTACTS THERE REGARDING THIS POSSIBILITY. ECONOMIC COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR HAS APPOINTMENT WITH FRG COUNTERPART DECEMBER 19 AND WILL SEE IF LATTER HAS ANY INFORMATION ON THIS ISSUE. FRG ECONOMIC COUNSELOR IN PRELIMINARY CONTACT TODAY SUGGESTED THAT GOT IN RESPONSE TO GERMAN DEMARCHE AGREED TO HOLD DOWN THY SERVICES TO EAST BERLIN. WE WILL SEEK MORE ON THIS TOMORROW.

5. IN EVENT THAT IT SHOULD BE CONFIRMED THAT THY IS APPLYING SPECIAL REDUCED RATE ON ISTANBUL-ANKARA CONNECTION FOR TURKISH WORKERS IN WAY THAT DISCRIMINATES AGAINST PASSENGERS CARRIED BY ALLIED AIRLINES (I.E. INCLUDING PAN AMERICAN), WE WILL BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT APPROACH BY GERMAN EMBASSY HERE.
BERGUS

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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